



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2021-0210

GREENFIRST FOREST PRODUCTS (QC) INC.

Application for an Electricity Generation Licence

BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Brian Hewson
Vice President,
Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

August 19, 2021

DECISION AND ORDER

On July 20, 2021, GreenFirst Forest Products (QC) Inc. (GreenFirst) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) under section 60 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act) for an electricity generation licence.

This Decision and Order is being issued by Delegated Authority, without a hearing pursuant to section 6(4) of the OEB Act.

The applicant intends to acquire, own and operate the 7.1 MW Chapleau Sawmill biomass generation facility located in Chapleau, Ontario. The subject facility is currently owned and operated by Rayonier A.M. Canada G.P. (EG-2003-0189) under a Biomass Non-Utility Generation (BNUG) contract with the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO).

After the completion of the commercial transaction between Rayonier A.M. Canada G.P. and the applicant, the IESO contact will be assigned to GreenFirst. The applicant submitted that the IESO has been notified of the sale of the generation facility and will transfer the contract to GreenFirst upon the closing of the commercial transaction. For the BNUG contract to be transferred to GreenFirst, the IESO requires a confirmation of the OEB's approval of the licence application filed by the applicant. To allow completion of the transaction in an orderly fashion, the applicant has requested the OEB approve its generation licence conditional on the IESO's assignment of the BNUG contract to GreenFirst.

The OEB finds that the application should be granted and that issuing the licence to the applicant is in the public interest. As the commercial transaction to purchase the subject generation facility has not yet been finalized, and, given the BNUG contract has not yet been assigned, the OEB's Decision and Order shall not take effect until the applicant files written evidence with the OEB confirming the closing of the transaction and assignment of the BNUG contract by the IESO to GreenFirst. Concurrent with the issuance of a licence to GreenFirst, licence EG-2003-0189 issued to Rayonier A.M. Canada G.P., will be cancelled. Rayonier A.M. Canada G.P. also requested that its electricity wholesaler licence EW-2019-0267 be cancelled at the same time.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The application by GreenFirst Forest Products (QC) Inc. for an electricity generation licence is granted.
2. The licence approved in paragraph 1 shall not take effect until GreenFirst Forest Products (QC) Inc. advises the OEB, in writing, that the commercial transaction described in its application, and summarized in the Decision and Order, has closed, and the IESO has assigned the Biomass Non-Utility Generation contract to GreenFirst Forest Products (QC) Inc.
3. Subject to paragraphs 1 and 2, the licences of Rayonier A.M. Canada G.P. EG-2003-0189 and EW-2019-0267 will be cancelled.

DATED at Toronto August 19, 2021

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance